590 Tracking Environmental Commitments

590.01 Introduction

This chapter reviews the process for tracking commitments made during the permitting phase and ensuring that all commitments made throughout project development are incorporated into contract documents.

590.02 Tracking Environmental Commitments During Permitting and PS&E

As final permits are received, conditions attached to each permit should be included in the Commitment File and logged in the Commitment Tracking System (see **Section 490.02**). Determine which commitments are the contractor's responsibility and which are the Project Engineer's responsibility (such as notification and monitoring requirements). All commitments that are the contractor's responsibility must be addressed appropriately in PS&E. Often permit language is not appropriate for contract language. Consequently, commitments must be translated into language that is biddable by the contractor, buildable in practice, and enforceable. That translation should be a joint effort between Environmental, Design, and Construction staffs.

The outcome of this effort should be a clear understanding of the individual commitment, and whether it is covered by a Standard Specification, a General Special Provision, a Standard Plan or a Special Provision within the contract. This type of clarity will help ensure that the contractor knows what his environmental responsibilities are, and how they are covered in the contract. It will also assure the permitting agency WSDOT is fulfilling its commitments. Several regions have experimented with putting this information in a matrix, but a consistent, statewide application is not yet available for use. Incorporating environmental commitments into PS&E is an evolving WSDOT process across the state. Regions are trying different methods, and their experience will be the basis for future guidance.

590.03 Exhibits

None. Each commitment is addressed in contract documents.